GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1929
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
MINIMISING CARRYING COST OF BUFFER STOCK
M. CHINNASAMY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to minimize surplus buffer carrying costs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a),(b)&(c) : Yes, Sir. Government has taken a number of measures to liquidate excess stocks of foodgrains, and increase the off-take of wheat and rice during 2001-2002. These include, inter-alia, increase in the allocation of food-grains for BPL families under TPDS, down-ward revision of Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of wheat and rice for APL families, open market saleof wheat and rice at reduced rates, allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to the StateGovernments for undertaking `Food for work Programme`, allotment of foodgrains at BPL ratesfor various welfare schemes of the Government, and export of wheat and rice. The above measures have been taken with a view to offloading surplus stocks and reducing the buffer carrying costs.